School Nurse Strategies to Support the Development of Resilience in Children

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Planner, Presenter, Author Disclosures

I disclose the **absence** of personal financial relationships with commercial interests relevant to this educational activity within the past 12 months.

Purpose

The purpose of this session is to enable the learner to understand the concept and importance of resiliency and employ strategies in school nursing practice to support the development of resiliency in students.



Objectives

- 1. Describe the characteristics of resilience in children and relevance to the practice of school nursing.
- 2. Demonstrate a school nurse strategy to support the development of resilience in students.
- 3. Create three IHP goals which address resilience in students with chronic health conditions.

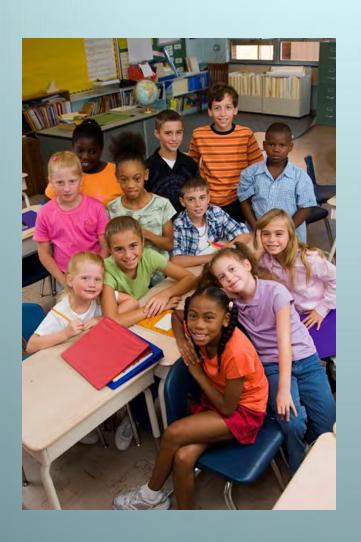
What is resilience?

"Learning to adapt well over time to lifechanging situations and stressful conditions"

(Source: Mental Health America of Eastern Missouri)



What is a resilient school?



- Promotes positive social connections
- Nurtures positive qualities
- Reinforces resilience qualities
- Avoids focusing on failure
- Teaches by example
- Fosters competence and selfefficacy
- Sets high expectations
- Uses restorative justice techniques

Source: http://www.childtrends.org/what-canschools-do-to-build-resilience-in-their-students/



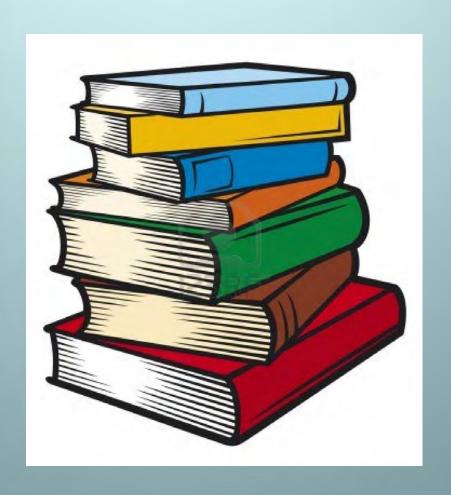
Self-Assessment



Personal Resilience

- Work on resilience skills appropriate to your situation
- Practice/Use skills in your toolbox
- Stress relieving habits (e.g. journaling, meditation/mindfulness, exercise, eat well, get enough sleep)
- Give yourself time
- Connect and seek support from others
- Get professional help if you need it

Resilience Theories



Why is Resilience Important?

• "The belief then is that every child capable of developing a resilient mindset will be able to deal more effectively with stress and pressure, to cope with everyday challenges, to bounce back from disappointments, adversity, and trauma, to develop clear and realistic goals, to solve problems, to relate comfortably with others, and to treat oneself and others with respect."

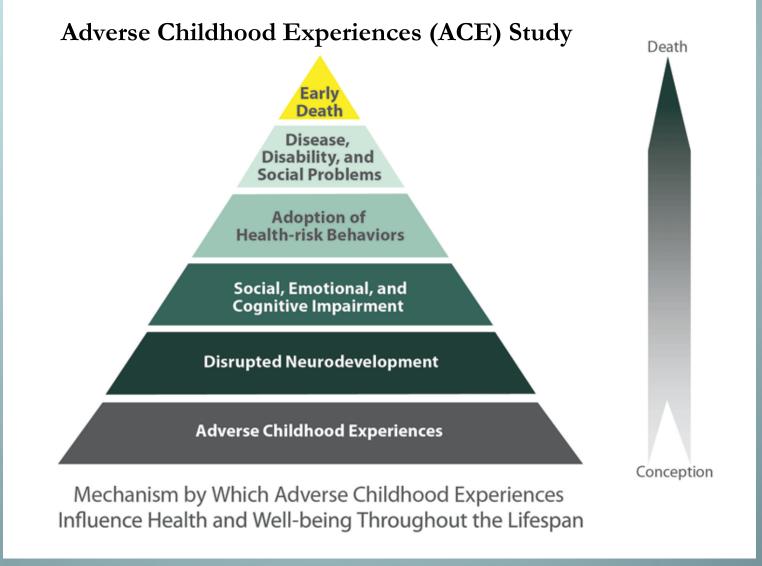
(Source: Goldstein, S., & Brooks, R. B. (Eds.). (2012). *Handbook of resilience in children*. Springer Science & Business Media, p. 3)

Risk Factors

- Biological
- Environmental



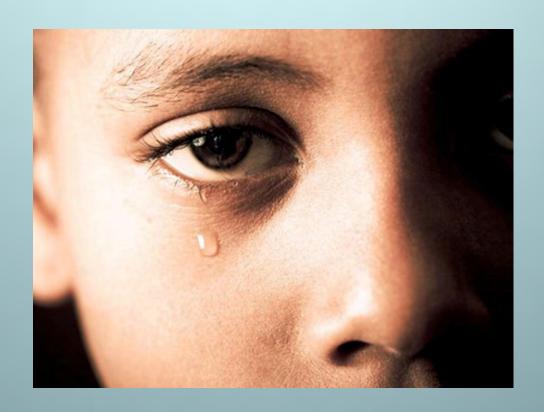
Zolkoski, S. M., & Bullock, L. M. (2012). Resilience in children and youth: A review. *Children and Youth Services Review*, *34*(12), 2295-2303.



Source: http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/acestudy/about.html

Felitti, V. J., Anda, R. F., Nordenberg, D., Williamson, D. F., Spitz, A. M., Edwards, V., ... & Marks, J. S. (1998). Relationship of childhood abuse and household dysfunction to many of the leading causes of death in adults: The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study. *American journal of preventive medicine*, 14(4), 245-258.

Children and Trauma



TedTalk: Nadine Burke Harris: How childhood trauma affects health across a lifetime

Protective Factors

- Individual characteristics
- Family Conditions
- Community Supports



Protective Factors – Individual Characteristics

- Physical Health Supports
- Self-Regulation
- Good Self-Concept
- Problem-Solving Skills
- Motivated to Achieve
- Positive Relationships with Friends



Protective Factors – Family Conditions

- Responsive parenting
- Positive emotion
- Family structure
- Supportive interactions
- Social supports
- Stable finances



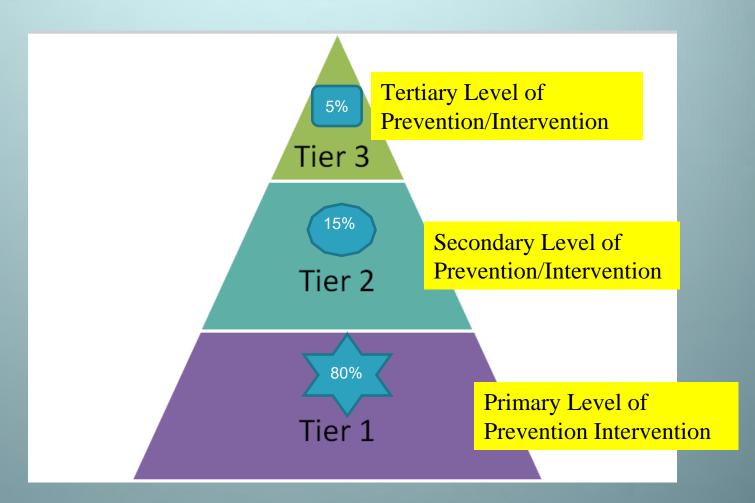
Protective Factors – Community Supports

- Role models
- Environments
 - Neighborhood safety
 - Recreation services
- Social support services
 - Accessible health services
 - Economic opportunities
 - Religious organizations
 - Effective schools





Prevention Strategies and the RTI Framework



Characteristics of Resilience* Creating a Resiliency Tool Box

- Optimism
- Flexibility
- Perspective
- Acceptance
- Self-Confidence
- Insightfulness and Intuition
 - Perseverance
 - Humor

^{*} Source: Used with permission, Mental Health America of Eastern Missouri

Optimism

- The ability to see the positive in most situations
- Believing in one's own strength



Supporting Optimism





https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B2Rx51Zrz07GY3\ td2F3ME92Zm8



Flexibility



 The capability to adapt to new, different and changing situations

Supporting Flexibility



Rules to Follow While Visiting the Nurse

- 1. When you come in, say hello and tell me why you are here.
- 2. Tell me as best as you can why you are coming to the clinic.
 - a. What hurts?
 - b. Where does it hurt?
 - c. What does it feel like?
 - d. When did it start to hurt?
 - e. Does anything make it feel better?
- 3. Show respect to others who are in the clinic. Do not ask them or me why they are here.
- 4. No drama in the clinic area. Do not pretend you are hurt or sick more than you are.
- 5. If you borrow clothes, please remember to return them clean so others can use them too
- Respect your health and the health of others by properly washing your hands, and correctly coughing and sneezing to prevent the spread of germs.

Perspective

- The ability to consider
 broader context
- Seeing obstacles as challenges
- Learning from mistakes



Supporting Perspective



Acceptance

- Accepting
 circumstances that
 cannot be changed
- Focusing on things
 you can change



Supporting Acceptance







Attribution Theory

- Task Difficulty
- •Luck
- Innate Ability or Talent
- •Effort



Insightfulness & Intuition

- Understanding what they are feeling and why
- Looking beyond the present circumstances

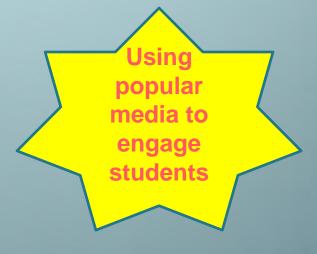


Supporting Insightfulness &

Intuition









https://drive.google.com/open?id=0BzubS7sDhYzzSHZXWjFPVkFuZEE

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= 0NeNUQmo1s

Self-Confidence

 Believing that you are in control of your own life



Supporting Self-Confidence





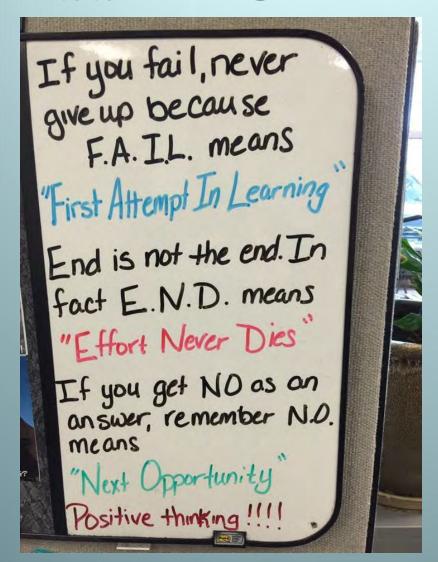


Perseverance

- Willingness to
 endure in the face of
 difficulty
- Being actionoriented
- Trusting the process and not giving up



Supporting Perseverance





Humor



 Being able to laugh in the face of adversity I wonder if the school nurse is missing me today? I haven't seen her yet and it's already 12:30







Using Resilience Supporting Language

- "What happened to you?"
- "What have you done in the past that has helped?"
- "You can do this! I believe in you!"
- "What have you already tried to make it feel better?"



Language to Calm Anxious Children

- •"I am here; you are safe."
- "Tell me about it."
- "How big is your worry?"
- "What do you want to tell your worry?"
- "Can you draw it?"
- "Let's change the ending."

- •"What other things do you know about ____?"
- "Take a deep breath."
- "It's scary and...."
- •"I can't wait to hear about...."
- "What do you need from me?"
- "This feeling will pass."

Role Play



Resilience in Students with Disabilities

- Personal control
- •Seek out and accept support
- Set goals
- Possess a strong will to succeed
- •Demonstrate high levels of persistence



Writing IHCP Goals to Support Resiliency

- Optimism
- Flexibility
- Perspective
- Acceptance
- Self-Confidence

Insightfulness and Intuition

- Perseverance
 - Humor



GROUP ACTIVITY



- 1. Break into groups of 4-8 people
- 2. One person shares a student/school health situation with the group
- 3. Participants each take one of the 8 characteristics of resilience and share how they can help the situation. Participants "become" the characteristic and share how the school nurse can encourage them with their student.

(Source: Mental Health America of Eastern Missouri)

- Optimism
- Flexibility
- Perspective
- Acceptance
- Self-Confidence
- Insightfulness and Intuition
 - Perseverance
 - Humor

Sharing



QUESTIONS?



Contact Information

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Thank you for coming!

Promise me you'll always remember: You're braver than you believe, and stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think.

Christopher Robin to Pooh (by A. A. Milne)

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